

# Making Listening Memorable:

## LISTENING IN CHUNKS



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Hancock McDonald.com



# Outline

**A little bit about ...**

- **listening**
- **language**
- **classroom practice**
- **how to make listening memorable**

# **A little bit about listening**

# Name that tune ...



BBC Magazine 2012



# Name that tune ...

We are the champions– Queen

YMCA – Village People

The Final Countdown – Europe

Brown Eyed Girl – Van Morrison

At the Car Wash – Rose Royce

Brown Girl in the Ring – Bony M

Karma Chameleon – Boy George

Doctor Doctor – The Thompson Twins

Pressure – David Bowie

Waterloo – Abba

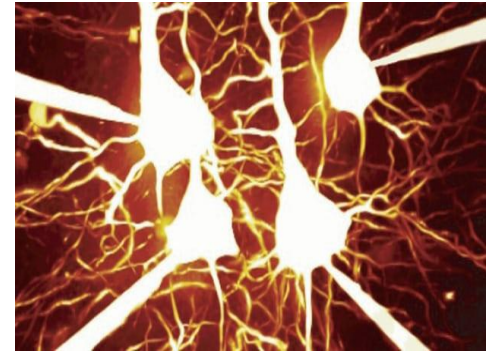
Michelle – The Beatles

Happy – Pharrel Williams



BBC Magazine 2012

**What have they all  
got in common?**



**Rhythm**

**Earworms**

**Verbal stickiness**

# **A little bit about language**

# Making Listening Memorable:

## Listening in chunks



When students listen to a text, many feel they are starting from scratch rather than building on what they have already mastered. Nowadays, technology enables teachers to create content and design effective activities which help learners make real listening progress. Come along and try out a selection of these activities.



# **A little bit about classroom practice**

# Top-down and bottom-up (1)



- You will hear 5 clauses, each one 3 times.
- What did the speaker say?

# Top-down and bottom-up (1)



- |  |             |
|--|-------------|
| <b>1 I must have about</b>                   | <b>100%</b> |
| <b>2 through it all the time and I think</b> | <b>66%</b>  |
| <b>3 I don't even speak to you</b>           | <b>33%</b>  |
| <b>4 They can see anything</b>               | <b>0%</b>   |
| <b>5 If you don't know 500 of them, you</b>  | <b>0%</b>   |

# Top-down and bottom-up (2)



- |                                       |      |
|---------------------------------------|------|
| 1 I must have about                   | 100% |
| 2 through it all the time and I think | 66%  |
| 3 I don't even speak to you           |      |
| 4 They can see anything               | 33%  |
| 5 If you don't know 500 of them, you  | 0%   |

**A little bit about how we can  
make listening memorable**

# Activity 1

## Acoustic drilling



You are going to listen to 6 phrases. You will hear each one three times.

The phrases have been written as they sound. What do you think the written form of what the speaker said is?

Compare with a partner and listen and check.

# Acoustic drilling (1)



- 1. sail does far**
- 2. lep me juss get this**
- 3. they look tut thee ya**
- 4. which wa zabada thousand**
- 5. all over the wood**
- 6. mice fum new kay an Norway**



# Acoustic drilling (1)



1. sail does far  
**sailed as far**
2. lep me juss get this  
**let me just get this**
3. they look tut thee ya  
**they looked at the er ...**
4. which wa zabada thousand  
**which was about a thousand**
5. all over the wood  
**all over the world**
6. mice fum new kay an Norway  
**mice from the UK and Norway**



# Activity 2: Acoustic drilling 2

You will hear 12 snippets or short bits of spoken text (spoken by different speakers).

There's one word that's the same in each snippet.



What is it?

# (...from an audio concordance)

tell us a **little bit** about, about their intelligence

tell me a **bit** about universities in your country

develop a **little bit** of a

tell me a **little bit** more about

could you tell me a **little bit** about that

to tell us a **little bit** more

stick out a **little bit**

in England at the moment, this is a **bit** of a, a big issue

can you tell us a **little bit** about that?

you can tell me a **little bit** more about it in a minute

tell me a **little bit** about

in a **little bit** of a cart thing

# <http://tubequizard.com/>

## level / type / category / variety

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variety ☒    




**vevo**


Grammar for listeners **Music**

14 items  **A2** **B1** **B2**


**Present Continuous** Listen and type expressions in Present Continuous.




**Pronunciation for listeners** **Music**

21 items  **B1** **B2**


**Disappearing sounds.** Practice catching frequently used words that end in /t/ or /d/.



**Grammar for listeners** **Entertainment**


7 items  **A2** **B1** **B2**

**Present continuous** Listen and type expressions in Present Continuous with frequently used verbs.




**HELP me help YOU**


**Grammar for listeners** **Music**

23 items  **A2** **B1**


**Present simple** Listen and type expressions in Present Simple with frequently used verbs.




**PRODUCTIVITY**



**HBO**



**EYE CONTACT SECRETS**



**CHANGE YOUR MIND**

09:36 15/11/2017

# <http://tubequizard.com/quiz.php?id=138> (pronunciation for listeners t/d)

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Pronunciation for listeners B1 B2

**Instructions.** In fast speech the sounds /t/ and /d/ often disappear from the end of a word. In the following quiz, all gaps contain words that end in t or d. Listen and fill the gaps.

**Channel: TheEllenShow**  
**Ed Sheeran Performs 'Thinking Out Loud'**

go to all quizzes based on this video edit the quiz

[cheers and applause]  
[gentle guitar music]  
- [singing] When your legs

Like they   before

And   sweep you off of your feet

Will your mouth still remember the taste of my love?  
Will your eyes still smile from your cheeks?  
And, darling, I will be loving you till we're 70

And, baby, my   could still fall as  
hard at 23

And I'm thinking 'bout how  
People fall in love in mysterious ways  
Maybe   touch of

Me, I fall in love with you every single day  
And I   tell you I am

Ed Sheeran Performs 'Thinking Out Loud'

09:37 15/11/2017

# <http://tubequizard.com/quiz.php?id=82> grammar for listeners – present perfect

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Grammar for listeners A2 B1

Instructions. Listen to the story and type in verbs in present perfect.

Channel: ODN

What's next for Larry the Cat as David Cameron leaves No.10?

go to all quizzes based on this video edit the quiz

David Cameron may be moving out - but onerresident isn't budging. Meet Larry - mouse-catcher extraordinaire.

...before being adopted at number ten.

check from strength to strength - with over 56 thousand followers on Twitter.He's popular for keeping mice and rodents at bay in the famous building. But like any moggy -

check in his fair share of scraps...But on the whole - check a pretty good job.

And while others will come and go - the newest of course being Theresa May... Larry will continue in his post.

What's next for Larry the Cat as David Cameron leaves No.10?

Larry the Cat!

https://englishagenda.britishcouncil.org/events/eltontons-years-eltontons/digital-innovation-finalists/digital-innovation

09:41 15/11/2017



<http://tubequizard.com/search.php?pattern=!bGI0dGxIIIGJpdCBhYm91dA>

search in subtitles: a little bit about

tubequizard.com/search

tubequizard.com/search.php?pattern=!bGI0dGxIIIGJpdCBhYm91dA

Apps Google University of Chester Web Sudoku - Billion EAP Vocabulary Using English for Acc The AWL Gapmaker Pre-session English Home - BBC News News, sport and opin juncture\_exercise Meetings extended s

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Use \* to search for unknown words and (|) to search for alternatives.  
Example: I('m| am) 'ing. Find more information in the tutorial.

Find in Youtube subtitles: little bit about Create a quiz

or choose from: Grammar for listeners Pronunciation for listeners Vocabulary in context Grammar in context Spelling

Filter by: channel video

Search

Channel: Android Developers

UXD: Three Steps To Awesome - Part 3 of 3

generate quizzes for this video search in this video

NAZMUL IDRIS: Exactly.  
PATRICK LARVIE: You know, I think one thing-- this is-- I wanted to talk a little bit about cowboy design. Lots of people like to leave their signature. Lots of people like to have a strong brand presence.

BizDevBytes: Driving Engagement with Design - Tuneln

generate quizzes for this video search in this video

resolutions, so that we were creating a really great user experience on different platforms. And so I'm going to show off a little bit about fragments. If I come in here, you can see that there are three different fragments on the browsing side of this screen.

TO FACTS ABOUT GREAT WHITE SHARKS

Clear

09:48 15/11/2017

# 'a little bit about'

739 pronunciations of 'a little bit about' in British English (2 out of 739):

**Site name**

**type in chunk**

**accents**

**no. of examples**

**speed**

Speed: normal [slower, faster]

23

The screenshot shows the YouGlish website interface. At the top, the browser address bar displays the URL: <https://youglish.com/search/a%20little%20bit%20about/uk>. The YouGlish logo is in the top left. Below it, a search bar contains the text 'a little bit about' and a red 'Say it!' button. To the right of the search bar are tabs for 'ALL', 'US', 'UK', and 'AUS', with 'UK' selected. Below the search bar are three buttons: 'AdChoices', 'Listening English', and 'English Speaking'. The main content area shows a video player with a man speaking. To the right of the video player is a sidebar with the text 'Compare Pension Annuity' and 'Pension Pot of +£30K?'. At the bottom of the page, there is a Windows taskbar with various icons and a system clock showing 09:45 on 09/10/2017.

The screenshot shows the YouGlish website interface. At the top, the browser address bar displays the URL. Below it, the search results show the phrase "So, I'm gonna talk to you a little bit about" with the words "a little bit about" highlighted in yellow. Below the text, there are playback controls: a large green play button, a smaller green play button, a green play button, a green play button, and a green play button. Below the playback controls, there is a G Suite advertisement with the text "Get started now" and a blue arrow button. A large blue arrow points from the word "a" in the highlighted text to a blue oval containing the word "audioscript".

## Tips to improve English pronunciation:

Here are 4 tips that should help you perfect your pronunciation of 'a little bit about':

- **Break 'a little bit about' down into sounds:** say it out loud and exaggerate the sounds until you can consistently produce them.
- **Record yourself** saying 'a little bit about' in full sentences, then watch yourself and listen. You'll be able to mark your mistakes quite easily.
- **Look up tutorials on Youtube** on how to pronounce 'a little bit about'.
- **Focus on one accent:** mixing multiple accents can get really confusing especially for beginners, so pick one accent (US or UK) and stick to it.

To further improve English pronunciation, we suggest you do the following:

- **work on word/sentence reduction:** in some countries, reducing words and sentences can be seen as informal but in the United States, it's completely normal and part of everyday conversation (eg: what are you going to do this week end → what you gonna do this week end). Click **gonna** and **wanna** for more examples.
- **work on your intonation:** stress, rhythm and intonation patterns are not easy to master in English but they are

pron tips

audioscript



# Activity 3

## backchain drill

**I know a little bit about kittens ...**

**bit about**

**little bit about**



**know a little bit about**

**I know a little bit about kittens ...**

# I know a little bit about kittens verse



I know a little bit  
about kittens  
I got bitten by a kitten  
last year  
A certain little kitten  
in Britain  
I've not forgotten  
that it bit me on the ear



# I know a little bit about kittens rap

I know a little bit  
about kittens  
I got bitten by a kitten  
last year  
A certain little kitten  
in Britain  
I've not forgotten  
that it bit me on the ear



# Useful resources

- <http://mp3cutter.toolur.com/> (free online app which can be used to cut audio tracks, and then save to your hard drive)
- <https://www.playphrase.me/en/search> (key in word/phrase for video clips containing the language – but be careful – not all content may be appropriate)
- [www.audacityteam.org](http://www.audacityteam.org) (free online audio editor and recorder)
- <http://tubequizzard.com> find examples of chunks in text in Youtube videos – blankfil – often same speaker
- <https://youglish.com> (make your own audio concordances – different speakers)
- Pronpack 4 Pronunciation Poems by Mark Hancock
- [www.hancockmcdonald.com](http://www.hancockmcdonald.com) slides for talk

**Making Listening  
Memorable:**

# LISTENING IN CHUNKS



**and no longer starting  
from scratch**



**Hancock McDonald.com**

**Thank you!**

